



City of Brookings

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Mayor Larry Anderson

March 23, 2010

District Engineer, Portland District
Army Corp of Engineers
Attn: Ms. Judy Linton
CENWP-OD-G
PO Box 2946
Portland, OR 97208-2946

Mr. Robert Lobdell
Oregon Department of State Lands
775 Summer Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-1279

Re: *Comments to the Corps and DSL to assist in refining the RGP and GP as requested by the "Joint Public Notice" dated March 5, 2010*

Dear Ms. Linton and Mr. Lobdell:

The City of Brookings has reviewed the Joint Public Notice for proposed gravel removal on the Lower Chetco River and is very concerned with your proposal to significantly reduce aggregate quantities with intermittent removals scheduled for only two seasons out of the next five years.

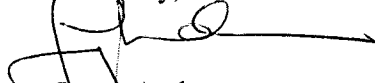
We have observed the gravel bars continued growth over the past number of years. The gravel bar below the Highway 101 Bridge has made the majority of the estuary once used for recreational boating non-navigable. The Social Security Bar has grown to heights never before observed.

The City of Brookings has been working hard, in partnership with other agencies, to secure funding and project approvals for the Curry General Hospital Clinic, now under construction, and the new Curry Campus of the Southwestern Oregon Community College, which is set to break ground in May. A major downtown street reconstruction project is under construction, and other major projects are planned in the near future. The City of Brookings is concerned with how your proposal will affect the citizens of Brookings and the adjacent areas. Some concerns include:

- Having an adequate supply of aggregate that will maintain and improve our existing infrastructure (e.g., new medical clinic, college campus, transportation projects).
- The infilling of our estuary thereby reducing the Chinook salmon population and reducing recreational opportunities and tourism.
- Employment opportunities for our residents.

We request that you develop alternatives to the currently proposed regulations in partnership with the community and the historic aggregate producers that would reduce the potential significant impact to our community while enhancing the Chetco River environment.

Sincerely,



Larry Anderson
Mayor

Cc: Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Congressman Peter DeFazio

Senator Jeff Merkley
Senator Ron Wyden

Curry County Commissioners
Jay Charland, DLCD